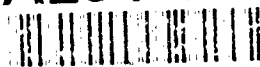


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In-Process Cure Monitoring of Composites
via Fiber-Optic Fluorescence

Final Report

C.S.P. Sung and N.H. Sung

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13. ABSTRACT (Maximum 200 words) The objective of the research under this contract were to develop in-situ cure monitoring technique based on intrinsic and extrinsic chemical sensors using fiber-optic fluorescence method for epoxy and polyimide and to use such a fiber-optic method to investigate fiber surface effects on epoxy structure and cure kinetics. As an extrinsic cure sensor, p,p'-diamino azobenzene (DAA) shows sensitive fluorescence intensity enhancement as a result of reaction with epoxide. It has been implemented for in-situ cure monitoring of bulk epoxy cured with diaminodiphenyl sulfone (DDS) at high cure temperatures (140-180°C) using fiber optic fluorescence instrument, using an internal standard dye to calibrate the intensity. The intrinsic fluorescence excitation spectra of DDS was found to show sensitive spectral shifts with cure. This result has also been implemented with real composites (carbon or glass fiber reinforced prepreps) in actual cure environment by fiber optic fluorescence instrument, by taking into account the effect of temperature on the spectral position.				
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13. Abstract (Continued)

The effect of different treatment on glass fiber on epoxy cure kinetics has been probed by evanescent mode using DDS excitation peak shift. This method is able to detect apparent differences in epoxy cure between interphases and bulk as well as after surface plasma treatment on glass fibers.

In polyimides, all the intermediate reaction species have been synthesized and characterized to investigate the kinetics and mechanisms of thermal and chemical imidization, using an extrinsic sensor of 1,5-diamino naphthalene. By combining UV, fluorescence, FTIR and GPC results, thermal imidization was thoroughly investigated in dilute solution as well as in solid state. Fluorescence was able to conclusively quantify the amount of depolymerization occurring in dilute solution.

List of All Publications:

1. Sung, C.S.P. and N.H. Sung, "UV and Emission Studies of Cure, Water and Oxidation/Degradation in Polymers", ACS Polymer Preprints, 33-1, 848, 1992.
2. Kailani, M.H., C.S.P. Sung and S.J. Huang, "Syntheses and Characterization of Model Imide Compounds and Chemical Imidization Study", Macromolecules, 25, 3751, 1992.
3. Dickinson, P. and C.S.P. Sung, "Kinetics and Mechanisms of Thermal Imidization Studies by UV-Visible and Fluorescence Spectroscopic Techniques", Macromolecules, 25, 3758, 1992.
4. Song, J. C. and C.S.P. Sung, "Fluorescence of Aromatic Diamines for Epoxy Cure Studies", ACS Polymer Preprints, 32-2, 362, 1991.
5. Paik, H. J., Sung, N. H. and C.S.P. Sung, "In-Situ Cure Monitoring of Aromatic Diamine -Epoxy System by Fiber Optic Fluorescence", ACS Polymer Preprints, 32-2, 669, 1991.
6. Dickinson, P. and C.S.P. Sung, "Kinetics of Imidization and Dissociation During Thermal Imidization", ACS Polymer Materials Science and Engineering Proceedings, 64, 129, 1991.
7. Sung, N. H., W. Dang, H. J. Paik, and C.S.P. Sung, "In-Situ Monitoring of Epoxy Cure by Fiber-Optic Molecular Sensors", SAMPE Proceedings, 1461, 1991 (San Diego, CA).
8. Pyun, E. and C.S.P. Sung, "Network Structure in Diamine-Cured Tetrafunctional Epoxy Matrix by UV-Visible and Fluorescence Spectroscopy", Macromolecules, 24, 855, 1991.
9. Dang, W., Sung, N. H. and C.S.P. Sung, "Optic Fluorophore Sensors", ACS Polym. Mat. Sci. & Eng., Proceedings, 63, 512, 1990.
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